

REMARKS

Claim 2 has been canceled, and claims 1, 4 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1, 4, 6 and 10 remain pending in this application.

Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) on Yoriki (US 6,640,431). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites “a position sensor sensing a vertical position of a lower end of the suction nozzle.” In contrast, Yoriki’s sensor 470, which the Examiner relies upon for teaching the claimed position sensor, takes a surface image of the bottom of the suction pipe as shown in FIGS. 20A-20D. And Yoriki’s nozzle sensor 394 senses an amount of light in order to detect whether a suction nozzle is missing. This is not the claimed invention. Yoriki’s sensors do not sense a vertical position of a lower end of a suction nozzle as claimed. Accordingly, since Yoriki does not teach the elements required by the claims, the rejections of claims 1 and 10 should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Kano (US 5,539,977) in view of Yoriki. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Kano and Yoriki in view of Takeuchi (US 5,661,239). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites “a control device determining a range of the vertical movement of the suction nozzle for picking up the next electronic component based on the vertical position of the lower end of the suction nozzle sensed by the position sensor” (emphasis added). This is not disclosed by Kano. Rather, Kano’s control device determines a range of vertical movement for mounting an electronic component. Further, the deficiencies of Kano are not compensated for by the additional references of Yoriki and Takeuchi. Accordingly, since the cited art does not teach the elements required by the claims, the rejections of claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the

Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. **606402015100**.

Dated: February 19, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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